

**751—5.20(8D) Purchasing cooperative or consortium.**

**5.20(1)** Membership. The commission may join a purchasing cooperative or consortium composed of public or private entities, or both, for the purpose of reducing overall telecommunications business costs for the commission and its authorized users.

**5.20(2)** Prior to joining a purchasing cooperative or consortium, the commission shall review membership obligations to ensure that the commission's membership obligations are not inconsistent with the laws and rules governing the commission.

**5.20(3)** Notwithstanding the provisions of subrules 5.20(1) and 5.20(2), the commission may purchase goods and services through the cooperative or consortium without conducting a separate competitive bidding process so long as the cooperative or consortium uses or used a competitive bidding process or procedure.